

Report of the Executive Secretary of the N. J. Urban League
July - 1918

Members of the Executive Committee:-

It is encouraging to report that mid-summer and the vacation season have not been factors in diminishing the activities of the League, nor its opportunities for service.

Of extremely great importance to us all, is the fact that the \$1500 necessary to get the conditional \$1000 has been raised. We have secured altogether approximately \$1700. This being over the required amount. While this is hopeful and while it manifests the interest and confidence of the people of Newark in us, there is the continued necessity for pressing forward, especially at this time when matters effecting the life of the Negro in the nation are in a fluctuating condition.

Nothing, it seems to me, can more rapidly and solidly bring about the adjustments toward which all of us are working, than the constructive program upon which the Urban League is working.

Activities:-

EMPLOYMENT- The League's recommendation of a Negro, to the State Department of Labor to work in the office on Franklin Street, at a salary of \$1200 per annum was approved and the appointment made. Two other extraordinary placements were, an agricultural expert and farm demonstrator at Bordentown Manual training and Industrial School at \$1000 per annum; and a farm operator and manager on a 114 acre farm in New York State. Of the two last named, one is a graduate of the Connecticut Agricultural School, the other from the Scientific Course at Syracuse University. Both are honorably discharged lieutenants from the late war. Another exceptional placement of a discharged soldier was that of a shoemaker with the Eistle Shoe Company, Newark. *Handwritten: cultural*

RECREATION & HEALTH: Tickets have been given to children for outings at Camp Newark, at Avon. On two occasions boys were taken, free of charge, to the baseball park to the Newark and Jersey City teams, and the Newark and Baltimore team play ball. It was very fine sport and thoroughly enjoyed by the "kiddies". *Handwritten: 125 tickets given to children, next page*

CASE WORK: The increasing number, and the variety of cases in dealing with the problems of the family, indicate clearly the necessity for a more thorough development of this particular branch of our work. During the mid-summer month of July 12 cases came to our attention. Their miscellaneous nature is indicated by mentioning a few; two families applied to us to secure girls of ten-twelve years for them to adopt; 3 applicants came for information to secure entrance into school, one at Washington, two at the Lincoln Hospital New York as trained nurses; one case in which the family was being evicted for over due rent. In this case, co-operating with the Saverly District of the Associated Charities, the Secretary appealed to the Federation of Colored Women's Clubs, which was then meeting here, for a sum of \$7. to make the required sum needed for \$12 rental. The Club very generously responded with \$9.40. Two families have called seeking places to board out children. Arrangement was made for one individual to go to Soho, one family sent home, one sent to convalescent Home of the New York Urban League. Others include adoption, sending to summer homes and sending south.

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CONFERENCES * Three important conferences, one with Dr. Julius Levy, Supervisor of Child Hygien State Department of Health, relative to securing appointments for colored nurses in other localities in the State to work among the Negro children, some progress has been made in this direction; another was with the Chairman of the Executive Board of the Boys Community Work, relative to getting a boys worker here; and a third was a calling together of all the colored social workers of Essex County to discuss our common problems and help formulate our programmes for the winter. This meeting included the Y.M.C.A. workers from Orange and Montclair, the Settlement House workers in N. Orange, the two City nurses in Newark, and the Urban League workers. Another conference is planned for September.

CO-OPERATION * We have cooperated with the Department of Labor, Health, Boys Community Work, Y.M.C.A. of Orange, Children's Aid Society.

Miscellaneous - The League has been represented at to Federations of Colored Women's Clubs. It has sold more than 1000 lbs. of bacon, cooperating with the City Commission on the purchasing of meats and good stuffers. It is noticeable that ours is the only private organization in the city being used as a sales station, all the others being fire houses.

The League building was used as the part of the
head quarters for the Federation of Colored Business Clubs
William M. Ashby
Executive Secretary.

Investigation and Publication

On Sunday July 6 the Newark Ledger published under the caption "New Jersey Urban League Discovers Interesting Facts" an investigation of Negro business in Newark made by the League. The investigation disclosed the fact that there were 109 places of business of various signs and kinds operated by Negroes in Newark in which there is a total investment of about \$150,000 two places alone having an investment of \$20,000 and \$15,000 respectively.

- (2) Following the Washington outbreak the Secretary of the League addressed a letter to the "Newark" recommending better housing, Recreation and the

importance in the administration of the law as contributing means to adprast racial differences. The article in excerpt was published in the News August 12-19.

The League has been called upon to supply material on Negro housing in Newark by the World Outlook magazine for an article to appear in November.

The News called on the League to get figures on Negro Education, Religion and Self help in the U.S. This information was given and part of it appeared in an editorial note on July 14th.